

1. ~~Mr Muston~~  
2. Mr Morley Parry  
3. ~~Mr Perry~~

~~B.415~~  
A.421  
A.405



**STANDISH-WITH-LANGTREE  
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL**

# **Annual Report**

**of the**

**Medical Officer of Health**

**together with the**

**Report of the**

**Public Health Inspector**

**for the year**

**1969**







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URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL**

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# STANDISH-WITH-LANGTREE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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*Chairman of the Council:*

Councillor Mrs. M. E. TURNER

*Vice-Chairman of the Council:*

Councillor J. HEALEN

*Members of the Council:*

Councillor T. BARNES

Councillor A. BIBBY

Councillor T. BISHOP

Councillor J. N. BLACKLEDGE

Councillor N. CAPSTICK

Councillor E. GARNER

Councillor J. R. LEIGH

Councillor W. LYON

Councillor J. McALLISTER

Councillor G. MEADOW

Councillor E. A. NAYLOR

Councillor G. WEATHERBY

Councillor R. HART, C.Eng., M.I.M.E.

*The Public Health Committee consisting of all Members of the Council is the Committee having charge of matters of public health within the Urban District.*

*Chairman of the Public Health Committee:*

Councillor E. GARNER

*Vice-Chairman of the Public Health Committee:*

Councillor J. McALLISTER

*Clerk of the Council:*

H. W. HARRIS, D.M.A., F.C.C.S.

*Medical Officer of Health:*

J. H. M. ROBERTSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

*Chief Public Health Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent:*

B. L. PARKER, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., M.R.I.P.H.H.

*Additional Public Health Inspector:*

P. S. DAVIES, Dip. P.H.I.E.B.

*Clerk:*

Miss J. E. JOLLEY

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# *Standish-with-Langtree Urban District Council*

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Public Health Department,

Ashfield House,

Telephone: Standish 2012.

Standish.

June, 1970.

*To the Chairman and Members of the  
Standish-with-Langtree Urban District Council:*

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

I have the honour of submitting to you the Annual Report on the health of the District for the year 1969.

As in previous years it has been compiled in accordance with instructions from the Department of Health and Social Security.

I wish to express my gratitude for the assistance and co-operation received from the Officers of the Council and particularly to Mr. B. L. Parker the Chief Public Health Inspector for his unfailing support.

I also respectfully wish to offer to members of the Council my appreciation for the courtesy and encouragement given to me at all times.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

J. H. M. ROBERTSON,

Medical Officer of Health.

## GENERAL STATISTICS

Population (Preliminary Census, 1961).....	.....	.....	.....	9,689
Registrar-General's estimated mid-year (1969) home population .....	.....	.....	.....	10,960
Acreage of district .....	.....	.....	.....	3,266
Number of inhabited dwellings at end of 1969 according to rate book .....	.....	.....	.....	4,140
Rateable Value (31-3-1969) .....	.....	.....	.....	£359,285
Product of penny rate (Actual 31-3-1969) .....	.....	.....	£1,410	18s. 0d.

## PHYSICAL FEATURES AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Standish-with-Langtree Urban District is pleasantly situated North of the County Borough of Wigan and adjoining it.

The Rural District of Wigan lies to the East and West and the Rural District of Chorley to the North.

Standish itself is located on the M.6 motorway and is easily accessible by both north and southbound traffic.

The maximum distance between the boundaries is about 5 miles and the height of the district above sea level varies from 88 to 375 feet.

The surface waters mainly gravitate to the adjacent Douglas Valley to be taken away by the river of that name.

The geological formation is of black loamy soil having generally a sandy sub-soil and in the Eastern parts there are considerable strata of hard rock. The district is rich in coal seams at varying depths.

Although the district is typically urban much of the property is residential in character.

The principal industries in the district are food canning and bottling, manufacture of textiles, agriculture, engineering and joinery manufacture. Employment in these industries has been well maintained during the year.

All coal mines in and adjacent to the district have now been closed, consequently the effects of mining subsidence are now gradually diminishing.

Each year there is a definite increase in population and rateable value.

For the purpose of Local Government the district is divided into five wards, each with three representatives, making a total of fifteen Councillors.



# VITAL STATISTICS

		Local Authority Area			England and Wales (Total)		Local Authority Area	England and Wales
		Males	Females	Total				
<b>Estimated mid-year home population</b>		—	—	10,960	48,826,800			
<b>Live Births</b>	Total .....	97	85	182	797,542	<b>Live Birth rates, etc.</b>		
	Legitimate .....	93	84	177	730,500	Livebirths per 1,000 home population (crude rate) .....		
	Illegitimate ...	4	1	5	67,042	Area comparability factor .....		
						Local adjusted rate.....		
						Ratio of local adjusted rate to national rate .....		
						Illegitimate live births as percentage of all live births ...		
<b>Stillbirths</b>	Total .....	1	1	2	10,662	<b>Stillbirth rate</b>		
	Legitimate .....	1	1	2	9,555	Still births per 1,000 total live and still births .....		
	Illegitimate ...	—	—	—	1,107			
<b>Total live and stillbirths</b>	Total .....	98	86	184	808,204			
	Legitimate .....	94	85	179	740,055			
	Illegitimate ...	4	1	5	68,149			
<b>Death of infants under 1 year of age</b>	Total .....	5	2	7	14,397	<b>Infant mortality rates</b>		
	Legitimate .....	5	2	7	12,694	Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births .....		
	Illegitimate ...	—	—	—	1,703	Deaths of legitimate infants under 1 year per 1,000 legitimate live births .....		
						Deaths of illegitimate infants under 1 year per 1,000 illegitimate live births .....		
<b>under 4 weeks of age</b>	Total .....	3	1	4	9,603	<b>NEONATAL MORTALITY RATE</b>		
	Legitimate .....	3	1	4	8,494	Deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 live births .....		
	Illegitimate ...	—	—	—	1,109			
<b>under 1 week of age</b>	Total .....	2	—	2	8,232	<b>EARLY NEONATAL MORTALITY RATE</b>		
	Legitimate .....	2	—	2	7,266	Deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births .....		
	Illegitimate ...	—	—	—	966	<b>PERINATAL MORTALITY RATE</b>		
						Stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined, per 1,000 total live and still births .....		
<b>Deaths—all ages</b>		69	60	129	579,463	<b>Deaths rates, etc.—all ages</b>		
						Deaths per 1,000 home population (crude rate).....		
						Area comparability factor .....		
						Local adjusted rate.....		
						Ratio of local adjusted rate to national rate .....		

# CAUSES OF DEATH AT DIFFERENT PERIODS OF LIFE DURING 1969

Cause of Death	Sex	Total All ages	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks and under 1 year	Age in years									
					1-4	5-14	15-24	25-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65-74	75 & over	
Malignant Neoplasm (Oesophagus)	M.	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm (Stomach)	F.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm (Intestine)	M.	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm (Lung-Bronchus)	F.	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	-
Malignant Neoplasm (Lung-Bronchus)	M.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	-
Malignant Neoplasm (Breast)	F.	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm (Breast)	M.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm (Uterus)	F.	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Malignant Neoplasm (Uterus)	F.	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	3	1
Malignant Neoplasm (Prostate)	M.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Leukaemia	M.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Leukaemia	F.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Malignant Neoplasms	M.	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-
Other Malignant Neoplasms	F.	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Diabetes Mellitus	M.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Diabetes Mellitus	F.	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Anaemias	M.	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Anaemias	F.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Other Diseases of Nervous System, etc.	M.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Diseases of Nervous System, etc.	F.	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	M.	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	F.	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hypertensive Disease	M.	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hypertensive Disease	F.	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-
Ischaemic Heart Disease	M.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ischaemic Heart Disease	F.	28	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	4	11	10
Other Forms of Heart Disease	M.	17	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	4	6	6
Other Forms of Heart Disease	F.	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	2
Cerebrovascular Disease	M.	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	3
Cerebrovascular Disease	F.	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	M.	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	5	3
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	F.	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Influenza	M.	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Influenza	F.	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	M.	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia	F.	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bronchitis and Emphysema	M.	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bronchitis and Emphysema	F.	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Asthma	M.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Asthma	F.	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	M.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	F.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cirrhosis of Liver	M.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cirrhosis of Liver	F.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nephritis and Nephrosis	M.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nephritis and Nephrosis	F.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hyperplasia of Prostate	M.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Congenital Anomalies	M.	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Congenital Anomalies	F.	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc.	M.	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, etc.	F.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality	M.	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Symptoms and Ill-Defined Conditions	F.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Symptoms and Ill-Defined Conditions	M.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
All Other Accidents	F.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries	M.	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries	F.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total All Causes	M.	69	3	2	-	1	-	1	-	1	4	12	26	20
Total All Causes	F.	60	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	7	10	19	21

**CANCER:** Twenty-three deaths occurred in 1969 — 11 males and 12 females compared with 18 deaths — 4 males and 14 females in 1968.

Facilities for radium treatment for Standish residents are available at the Manchester Radium Institute and at Wigan Infirmary Clinic.

## **GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA**

### **LABORATORY FACILITIES**

Laboratories of the Public Health Laboratory Service established at the Wigan and Preston Infirmaries are used for bacteriological examinations. Chemical analyses are usually undertaken by the County Analyst at Preston.

The arrangements have proved quite adequate and satisfactory.

### **AMBULANCE FACILITIES**

The duty of providing an Ambulance Service devolves upon the Lancashire County Council (Health Division No. 8) as the Local Authority under the National Health Service Act. An ambulance station situated in Glebe Close covers the needs of Standish. The service is quite satisfactory.

## **PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES**

Only 18 cases of infectious disease were notified during the year.

**Food Poisoning.** One case of Salmonella food poisoning contracted outside the district was notified.

A considerable amount of follow-up work was carried out by the Public Health Inspector in ensuring freedom from infection of a case of dysentery and one of food poisoning.

Twenty-five pathological specimens were obtained necessitating a total of forty visits.

**General.** In accordance with the provisions of the Health Services and Public Health Act, 1968, a copy of each notification of an infectious disease, including food poisoning, has to be sent by the department to the Local Health Authority on the day of its receipt, if possible, and in any case within 48 hours after its receipt.

Other returns relating to the prevalence of and deaths from notifiable infectious diseases have to be sent to the Registrar-General and the County Medical Officer of Health at weekly and quarterly intervals.



# CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1969

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES	Total cases at all ages	TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED AGE PERIODS—YEARS											65 and age un- Total over known deaths
		0	1	2	3	4	5	10	15	25	45		
Measles (excl. rubella) ... ..	9	1	1	—	1	2	4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet fever ... ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis (resp.) ... ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—
Tuberculosis (non-resp.) ... ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—
Dysentery ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Food poisoning ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
Infective jaundice ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
TOTALS... ..	18	1	1	—	1	3	6	—	2	2	1	1	—

## IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION

The following statistics show the number of children under 16 years of age resident in Standish who were immunised and vaccinated during the year.

<i>Type of prophylactic</i>	<i>Primary</i>	<i>Reinforce- ment</i>
Diphtheria: .....	91	369
Whooping Cough: .....	77	164
Tetanus: .....	90	370
Poliomyelitis: .....	143	213
Measles: .....	125	Nil
Smallpox Vaccinations: .....	127	1

## TUBERCULOSIS

Arrangements for the diagnosis and treatment of tuberculosis are vested in the County Council, Specialist Chest Physicians of the Regional Hospital Boards and the General Practitioners. The County Council, on direction of the Minister of Health, is responsible for both prevention and after-care of this condition, but local sanitary authorities are still empowered under the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1936, to take all necessary action to prevent the spread of infection and the Medical Officer of Health still retains specific duties and responsibilities under the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1952.

Standish cases attend the Wigan Chest Clinic.

Four new cases of tuberculosis—two respiratory and two non-respiratory—were notified during the year compared with one non-respiratory case last year. There were no deaths from tuberculosis.

## NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACTS, 1948 and 1951

No action was taken under these Acts in respect of the removal of persons in need of care and attention.



## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

### WATER SUPPLY

The Statutory Water Undertaker is the Makerfield Water Board, which, on the 2nd October, 1961, assumed responsibility for providing the district with a sufficient and wholesome supply of water.

The Council has one representative on the Makerfield Water Board.

The whole of the water supplied to this district by the Board is obtained in bulk from the Manchester Corporation and comes from Thirlmere.

The water is filtered and chlorinated at the Standish waterworks before distribution.

During the year the Board carried out extensions to water mains for new housing purposes and to improve the supply in certain low pressure areas.

All houses in the district are supplied from public water mains direct to houses and the supply is generally plentiful.

No action was necessary as regards any form of contamination or plumbo-solvency.

The fluoride content is 0.048 part per million which is similar to that normally found in Thirlmere water.

**Water Sampling.**—The following samples of fully treated water going into supply were taken during the year and the results are tabulated below.

Bacteriological examinations			Chemical analyses		
No.	Results		No.	Results	
	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory		Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
3	3	Nil	2	2	Nil

The water supply is consistently reported upon as a good soft upland surface water free from organic pollution and in every way quite fit for drinking and all domestic purposes.

## REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

Mr. B. L. Parker—Chief Public Health Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent—has kindly contributed the following report:—

### DETAILS OF INSPECTIONS AND VISITS

Butchers Shops .....	26	Supervision over Refuse Collection	
Slaughterhouses .....	194	& Disposal .....	210
Bakehouses .....	3	Watercourses & River Pollution ...	4
Fish & Chip Shops .....	11	Dustbin Provision .....	217
Ice-Cream Vendors .....	6	Housing Act Inspections .....	259
Cafes & Canteens .....	19	Houses in Multiple Occupation.....	1
Licensed Premises .....	30	Overcrowding .....	1
Other Food Premises .....	78	Housing Applications .....	1
Hawkers & Delivery Vehicles .....	46	Caravans & Moveable Dwellings ...	10
Dairies .....	1	Infectious Disease Inquiries .....	36
Milk Distributors .....	19	Filthy or Verminous Premises ...	37
Factories (Non-Mech.) .....	1	Disinfestation of Premises .....	26
Factories (Mech.) .....	34	Interviews with Owners, etc. ....	175
Sites of Building Operations and		Re-inspection of Notices .....	250
Works of Engineering Construc-		Rodent Control .....	388
tion .....	3	Atmospheric Pollution .....	65
P.H.A. Workplaces .....	14	Water Supplies .....	17
Outworkers Premises .....	2	Swimming Baths & Pools.....	7
Shops under Shops Act .....	294	Hairdressing Establishments.....	1
O.S.R.P. Act .....	147	Welfare—Aged Persons & Problem	
Investigation of Complaints .....	97	Families .....	22
Inspections & Tests Drainage .....	238	Noise Abatement Act .....	1
School Sanitary Accommodation ...	5	Agricultural Units .....	12
Septic Tanks & Cesspools .....	18	Outdoor Fetes .....	2
Privy Middens & Pail Closets		Civic Amenities Act .....	92
(Conservancy Closets) .....	1	Various Causes .....	119

**Total Number of Inspections: 3,240**

## SUMMARY OF DEFECTS OR NUISANCES

<i>Description</i>	<i>No. discovered and abated</i>
Defective refuse receptacles .....	217
Defective or obstructed drainage systems .....	195
Damp—defective and perished wall plaster .....	45
Defective windows .....	44
Offensive odours and accumulations .....	39
Defective doors and frames .....	25
Defective chimney stacks and flues .....	17
Defective eaves gutters or rainwater pipes .....	14
Insufficient or unsatisfactory water supplies .....	14
Defective watercloset appliances .....	12
Defective roofs .....	10
Defective brickwork (external walls) .....	10
Defective or obstructed private sewage disposal plant .....	10
Abandoned or derelict vehicles .....	9
Smoke and grit emission .....	6
Defective floors .....	4
Defective or insanitary sink waste pipes .....	4
Insect infestation .....	4
Flooded cellars and sub-floor spaces .....	4
Defective ceilings .....	3
Defective or flooded approach paths and yards .....	3
Filthy or verminous premises .....	3
Defective firegrates .....	2
Obstructed eaves gutters or rainwater pipes .....	2
Defective cold water service pipes .....	2
Keeping of animals and poultry .....	2
Noise nuisances .....	2
Condensation .....	2
External decoration .....	1
Dangerous boundary walls .....	1
Defective watercloset structures .....	1

<b>Defects or Nuisances: Number discovered and abated</b>	<b>707</b>
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**Number of Notices served: Informal 33. Statutory 8.**

**Legal Proceedings: Nil.**



The foregoing statistics indicate the attention given to improving the everyday environmental matters which are so essential to the health and well-being of the community—matters which although unspectacular in themselves cover a field far wider than is generally appreciated.

The duties of the department continue to increase due to the growth of the district and the impact of new legislation dealing with environmental matters.

The sanitary circumstances of the district have been kept under close supervision and every endeavour has been made to deal with any health problems that have arisen.

The chief sanitary requirements of the district remain the completion of the sewerage and sewage disposal scheme and the paving and drainage of unmade roads. Both these matters are being dealt with by the Council.

The work of the public health department is prevention rather than cure. The department seeks to ensure that at all times and in all places all that contributes to the health and comfort of the individual is assured.

DRAINAGE

The Council operates a rate-borne drain clearing service under the control of the public health department.

This service ensures the expeditious clearance of obstructed drainage systems which might otherwise give rise to potentially unhealthy conditions.

It is a service which is greatly appreciated by the general public and was called for on 195 occasions.

Where as sometimes happens drainage systems are found to be defective—advice is given to owners as to the best method of remedying the faults found and work in progress is supervised.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION

Approximate number of the various types of sanitary accommodation provided in the district is as follows:—

Number of dwellings on water carriage system .....	4,137
Number of dwellings not on water carriage system .....	2
Number of privy middens (mostly on farms) .....	3
Number of pail closets (mostly on farms) .....	8
Number of waste water closets .....	2
Number of moveable dustbins .....	4,412

It is impracticable for the few remaining conservancy closets to be connected to the public sewerage system, but, as opportunities arise, every effort is made and ingenuity used, to find ways and means of conversion to the water carriage system with outfall to private sewage disposal plant.

# HOUSING

## STATISTICS

### 1.—Number of new dwellings erected during the year:—

	Houses	Flats
(i) By the local authority .....	3	Nil
(ii) By other local authorities .....	Nil	Nil
(iii) By other bodies or persons .....	38	Nil

### 2.—Total No. of dwellings owned by any local authority, existing in district at end of year ..... 903

### 3.—Inspections of dwellings during the year:—

(i) (a) Total No. of dwellings inspected formally or informally for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) .....	242
(b) No. of inspections, formal or informal, made for the purpose .....	492
(c) No. of dwellings in (a) above found to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation but capable of being rendered fit .....	33
(ii) Total No. of dwellings existing at end of year, occupied or not, which were unfit for human habitation and not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered fit and in respect of which:—	
(a) Demolition, Clearance or Closing Orders have been made (at any time) .....	14
(b) Demolition, Clearance or Closing Orders have not yet been made .....	36

### 4.—Houses Demolished :—

4.—Houses Demolished :—		Displaced during year from houses to be demolished or closed	
In or Adjoining Clearance Areas:	Number	Persons	Families
(i) Houses unfit for human habitation .....	Nil	}	}
(ii) Houses included by reason of bad arrangement, etc. ....	Nil		
(iii) Houses on land acquired under S.43(2), Housing Act, 1957 .....	Nil		
Not in or Adjoining Clearance Areas:			
(iv) As a result of formal or informal procedure under S.16 or S.17(1), Housing Act, 1957 .....	5	}	}
(v) Local Authority owned houses certified unfit by the Medical Officer of Health .....	Nil		
(vi) Houses unfit for human habitation where action has been taken under local Acts .....	Nil		
(vii) Unfit houses included in Unfitness Orders .....	Nil		



5.—Unfit Houses Closed:—		Number	Displaced during year from houses to be demolished or closed Persons Families	
(i)	Under S.16(4), S.17(1) and S.35(1), Housing Act, 1957, and S.26, Housing Act, 1961 .....	1	}	5      1
(ii)	Under S.17(3) and S.26, Housing Act, 1957 .....	Nil		
(iii)	Parts of buildings closed under S.18, Housing Act, 1957 .....	Nil		
6.—Unfit Houses Made Fit:—		Number		
(i)	By owner after informal action by local authority	33		
(ii)	After formal notice under S.9 and S.16, Housing Act, 1957			
	(a) by owner .....	Nil		
	(b) by local authority .....	Nil		
(iii)	After Formal notice under Public Health Acts ...	8		
(iv)	After modification or revocation of a clearance order under S.24, Housing Act, 1961 .....	Nil		
(v)	After determination of a demolition order under S.24, Housing Act, 1957 .....	Nil		
7.—Unfit Houses in Temporary Use (Housing Act, 1957):—				
		Number of houses (1)	Number of separate dwellings contained in column (1) (2)	
Position at end of year:				
(i)	Retained for temporary accommodation—			
	(a) Under Section 48 .....	Nil	Nil	
	(b) Under S.17(2) .....	Nil	Nil	
	(c) Under S.46 .....	Nil	Nil	
(ii)	Licensed for temporary occupation under S.34 or S.53 .....	Nil	—	
8.—Purchase of Houses by Agreement:—		Number of houses (1)	No. of occupants of houses in Col. (1) (2)	
Houses in clearance areas other than those included in confirmed orders or compulsory purchase orders .....		Nil	Nil	

**9.—Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958, and Housing Act, 1969—  
Improvements grants, etc.:—**

	No. of dwelling houses or other buildings affected in schemes of		
	Owner occupied	Others	Local Authority
Action during year:			
(i) Submitted by private individuals to local authority .....	11	1	—
(ii) Approved by local authority ...	11	1	—
(iii) Submitted by local authority to Ministry .....	Nil	Nil	65
(iv) Finally approved by Ministry ...	Nil	Nil	65
(v) Work completed .....	11	1	22
(vi) Additional separate dwellings included in (v) above .....	Nil	Nil	Nil
(vii) Any other action taken under the Acts, e.g. General Improvement Areas (give brief particulars) .....		Nil	

**10.—House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959 and Housing Acts, 1961, 1964 and 1969—Standard Grants:—**

	No. of dwellings or other buildings affected	
	Owner occupied	Others
Action during year:		
(i) Applications submitted to local authority for improvement to (a) full standard .....	16	1
(b) reduced standard .....	Nil	Nil
(ii) Total applications approved by local authority for improvement to (a) full standard .....	16	1
(b) reduced standard .....	Nil	Nil
(iii) Work completed .....	16	1
iv) Particulars of any action taken relating to compulsory improvement of dwellings .....		Nil

**HOUSING:** Housing is one of the most important factors affecting the health of any community. The duty of maintaining an inspection of the housing conditions in the district was continued during the year. Much time was devoted to this important sphere of environmental health work which resulted in the improvement of the housing conditions of many families.

Slum clearance proposals have so far involved the demolition or closing of 73 dwelling houses.

These proposals—designed to clear the worst of the unfit houses in the district—have received the approval of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

The appraisal of housing conditions is a continuing process which can never be completed and it is estimated that at the present time 36 houses do not have an expectation of life of 15 years.

Following the purchase by agreement of 38 sub-standard National Coal Board houses in Moores Lane and James Square, 10 houses had been vacated and 4 demolished at the end of the year.

Re-development of the cleared site for housing purposes would bring about a desirable improvement in the present environment.

The High Street and Church Street (Clearance Area No. 1) Compulsory Purchase Order, 1969, involving 14 sub-standard dwellings was made.

Good progress has been made with the actual demolition of condemned properties without resort to default action.

Housing conditions in the district are generally fairly good and no serious slum problem exists.

One house in multiple occupation has been let off in rooms so as to provide two units of accommodation. The premises comply with the statutory requirements and a good standard of management is applied.

A house-to-house survey has revealed that of the total stock of 4,100 houses in the district some 420 are in need of improvement although about 50 of this number lack only an internal watercloset.

These houses are sub-standard but are not in such a state of disrepair and not so badly arranged as to be included in slum-clearance schemes. Most of these houses were built in the late 19th century—they are structurally sound but lack what are rightly considered today to be essential amenities—and still have a useful life probably in the region of 20 to 30 years. The residents of these dwellings are normally content to remain where they have lived for most of their lives and would welcome the improvement of their homes to give them the minimum amenities which are expected today.



Each year steady progress is made in putting new life into this type of dwelling.

Of the three types of grant available for modernising older houses, the following are made use of in Standish:—

- (1) The Standard Grant of up to £200 obtainable by owners as of right. A total of 108 houses have been furnished with one or more of the standard amenities since these provisions first came into operation in 1959.
- (2) The Improvement Grant of up to £1,000 which covers more extensive improvements is paid at the discretion of the Council. A total of 215 houses have been improved to the twelve point standard since these provisions first came into operation in 1949.

It is in both national and local interest that the maximum number of houses—capable of being raised to this higher standard of fitness—comfort and convenience—should be preserved—for all houses should be furnished with these simple aids to healthy living. To halt obsolescence before it reaches the slum stage by providing some measure of financial assistance is a much better proposition than doing nothing until the only solution is demolition and a new house as a replacement.

The improvement with grant-aid of a terrace of 12 formerly privately owned houses in Hutton Street and 57 Council-owned 1919 houses in Fairhurst Avenue was in progress at the end of the year.

The Council has approved a scheme prepared by Consultant Architects for the modernisation of 333 pre-war Council houses, and, in this connection, the improvement of 53 houses in Almond Brook Road (in two phases of 21 and 32) was in progress at the end of the year. The improvement of a further 60 houses on the Avondale Estate was being programmed to commence in 1970.

Negotiations for the purchase of 59 National Coal Board houses and a further 11 privately owned houses in Hutton Street were proceeding.

At the end of the year there were 135 applicants for Council housing accommodation—approximately 90 requiring 2-bedroom—10 requiring 3-bedroom type houses—and 35 requiring aged persons bungalows. Whilst a degree of overcrowding exists it does not constitute a serious problem. Investigation into the circumstances of a number of applicants was made and reports prepared for the guidance of the committee in its endeavours to ensure that applicants with the greatest housing need are re-housed. The number of applicants having an acute housing need is now not so great as it was some few years ago.

Whilst Standish attracts considerable housing development by private enterprise—there remains no small demand and preference for that substantial municipal house with the security of good management.

Of the 15 dwellings to complete the development of the Larkhill Housing Estate, 3 houses were completed and 12 flats were nearing completion.

The construction of 45 dwellings to redevelop the Grove Place site following the demolition of 20 aluminium bungalows was commenced.

Mining subsidence continues—now to a lesser degree—to make its impact upon the community here—destroying houses and disrupting families. No amount of depreciation payments or remedial works can fully compensate the householder—more particularly the housewife who bears the brunt of the upset—for the inconvenience and unrest caused.

Mining subsidence—an inexact science—is a continuing process which can never be fully assessed and where it is in evidence normal day-to-day work is all the more difficult.

**Rent Act, 1957**

*Certificates of Disrepair*

No action was called for under the provisions of this Act during the year.

**Housing Act, 1969**

*Qualification Certificates*

Seven certificates of provisional approval were issued in respect of houses subject to improvement.

One application was under consideration in respect of a house where the standard amenities were already provided.

**DISINFESTATION**

The following premises were disinfested during the year for the reasons stated:—

Ants	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	19
Unwholesome conditions	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2
Cat fleas	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Clover mite	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Cluster flies	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Golden spider beetles	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
Wasps	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1

Where the furniture and effects of prospective tenants of Council houses are known to be verminous—disinfestation is carried out in order to prevent infestation of the new premises.

Spraying and dusting with various insecticidal liquids and powders proved to be highly effective.



## INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND DISINFECTION

All notified cases of certain infectious diseases are visited and enquiries made relative to the source of infection and general home conditions. Recommendations are made and advice given concerning isolation of the case and the care to be exercised by contacts.

Public library books from infected premises are disinfected by the health department before being returned to the library for re-issue. Books in an unserviceable condition are sometimes destroyed by arrangement with the librarian.

No premises were disinfected during the year.

A standing arrangement with Hindley Urban District Council exists for the transportation and treatment of infected articles requiring steam disinfection.

## RODENT CONTROL

One trained part-time operator is employed on rodent control work.

The following abstract from the Annual Report submitted to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food indicates the nature and extent of work carried out during the 12 months ended 31-12-1969.

	TYPE OF PROPERTY	
	Non-agricultural	Agricultural
(a) No. of properties in district.....	4,240	40
(b) Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification ...	116	4
(c) No. of (b) infested by—rats .....	82	4
mice.....	18	Nil
(d) Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification	158	30
(e) No. of (d) infested by—rats .....	16	5
mice.....	5	Nil

No sewers were found to be infested by rats during the year.

A total of 388 visits was made for rodent control purposes. No unusual difficulties were experienced in the destruction of rats and mice and no other infestation as defined in Sect. 28 of the Act had to be dealt with.

The rat is a parasite on our social structure and the depredations of rodents if left to proliferate are costly and highly dangerous.

Rodent control techniques are better understood and practiced today than ever before.

Residents can help by repressing rats and mice and reporting immediately the presence of these pests.

The services of the Council's rodent operator—under the control and supervision of the Public Health Inspector—are available to undertake the destruction of rats and mice on land or premises within the Urban District.

No charge is made for the disinfestation of private dwelling-houses but business and agricultural premises are charged for treatments on a time and material basis as distinct from contract terms.

The sewers and sewage disposal works were systematically treated also the refuse disposal sites.

It is only by co-ordinated attention to underground and surface infestations that the rat population is kept to a minimum.

No legal proceedings were taken under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act during the year.

Regular attendances were made at the South West Lancashire Advisory Committee on Pest Control and the fullest co-operative working with contiguous local authorities and other bodies exists.

## PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

Public sanitary conveniences for both sexes planned and equipped on modern lines are maintained by the Council in a central and convenient position in the township.

It is more than regrettable that these conveniences have been the target for acts of vandalism by what are obviously misguided individuals.

The Council has made Byelaws as to the conduct of persons using the conveniences.

The provision of public sanitary conveniences at Standish Lower Ground is under consideration.



## RIVERS AND STREAMS

Continuous pollution of rivers and streams takes place from both public and private sewage disposal plant. Attempts are made to reduce the pollution from private premises by the health department arranging for the cleansing of cesspools and septic tanks at the cost of the respective owners. The pollution from public sewage disposal works can only be mitigated by the completion of phase II of the sewage disposal scheme.

As from the 1st June, 1963, a date fixed by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, it became an offence to CONTINUE to discharge into any stream or river (including canal) any trade or sewage effluent, unless the consent of the Lancashire River Board had been obtained or applied for before that date.

## SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Standish has a water carriage system serving the majority of premises in the district.

Construction of the internal sewerage systems with 3 pumping stations (phase I) commenced in 1966 was completed during the year.

The completion of this phase has provided for:—

- (a) increasing the size of sewers where these had become inadequate;
- (b) replacing the inadequate sewage works at Arbour Lane with a pumping station and rising main to the general system;
- (c) sewerage the northern portion of Preston Road together with pumping station and rising main to the general system thereby putting 28 premises on the sewer for the first time and abolishing unsatisfactory private sewage disposal plants;
- (d) sewerage an area at Thornhill together with pumping station and rising main to Wigan Corporation's sewer in Wigan Lane thereby putting 19 premises on the sewer for the first time and abolishing unsatisfactory private sewage disposal plants.

The completion of phase I of the sewerage scheme has provided main drainage to 49 premises and one school formerly in unsewered areas and alleviated flooding during storm conditions in several parts of the district.

It is contemplated that the unsewered part of Wigan Lower Road will be included in the Shevington Scheme now in preparation. The sewerage system for Standish Lower Ground discharges into the trunk sewer of Wigan Corporation. A scheme for the enlargement of the sewers discharging to the Arbour Lane pumping station is also in preparation.

The abolition of the totally inadequate and unsatisfactory two sewage farms at Fairhurst House and Langtree and the disposal works at Chorley Road awaits the provision of a large pumping station at the Chorley Road site with rising outfall main to join the trunk sewer of Wigan Corporation at Crook thence to the disposal works at Hoscote. The completion of the work (known as phase II) is an urgent matter in order that the improvements which will result from the completion of phase I can materialise.

### CARAVAN SITES AND MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

One site licence to use a plot of land as a site for a single caravan is in force under the provisions of the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960.

The use of caravans and similar structures for permanent residence should be discouraged as such moveable structures do not constitute suitable substitutes for dwellings of traditional construction.

There are no camping sites within the Urban District.

### ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

General observations of the four industrial chimneys were made during the year. Pollution of the atmosphere from industrial furnaces within the Urban District has now largely been eliminated.

The emission of smoke and fumes from the extensive burning spoilbanks at the disused Victoria and Giants Hall Collieries gave cause for grave concern.

During the year, ownership of these spoilbanks passed from the National Coal Board into private ownership whose primary concern has been the extraction of red shale as a commercial venture. Shale extraction has done much to activate combustion and undo much of the successful work carried out over the past eight years by the National Coal Board in arresting and suppressing combustion.

That the costly liability of keeping combustion in nationalised colliery spoilbanks under control can revert from public to private ownership seems quite wrong.

In the experience of this district, private ownership has failed to display the expertise and initiative necessary to control combustion, and, in consequence, serious environmental pollution is taking place and giving rise to strong complaints by residents over a wide area.



Public health control of these spoilbanks has proved to be a very difficult matter, and the prospect of residents having to live in such a vile atmosphere makes sad reflection in this European Conservation Year when this report was written.

Section 3 of the Clean Air Act, 1956, requires the person proposing to install a new furnace having a heating capacity greater than 55,000 British Thermal Units per hour to give notice of this intention to the local authority. Two such installations were notified during the year.

With regard to the progressive elimination of domestic smoke—responsible for about one half of all atmospheric pollution—householders are advised to install approved smokeless methods of heating when replacing old and obsolete grates. The trend towards full or partial central heating in new and existing dwellings is a correct one.

With the object of promoting cleaner air, Regulation M2 of The Building Regulations, 1965, requires the installation of approved heating or cooking appliances in new buildings.

This Urban District is not included in the provisional list of “black areas” prepared by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government for domestic smoke-control purposes.

Work on the preparation of a domestic smoke control programme, which had reached an advanced stage at the end of the year, has been halted because of the national economic situation and the shortage of solid smokeless fuel.

The Council is a member of the National Society for Clean Air.

### OFFENSIVE TRADES

No offensive trades are carried on in the district.

### COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are none in the district.

### SWIMMING BATHS AND BATHING POOLS

There are no public swimming baths or pools in the district.

At one school there is a hydrotherapy pool with diatomaceous earth continuous filtration with a turnover period of once per hour and automatic hypochlorite chlorination.

Samples of the pool water are regularly taken for bacteriological examination to keep a check on the efficacy of operation of the filtration and chlorination plant.

### SHOPS AND OFFICES

#### (1)—Shop Acts, 1950 to 1965.

The provisions of these Acts concerning working hours, intervals for meals and rest and weekly half-day holiday of young persons are the responsibility of the Lancashire County Council as the Shops Act Authority but the Public Health Inspector is delegated Inspector of



Shops by the County Council as regards these matters. Details of each shop inspection are sent to the County Medical Officer of Health and any contraventions reported are dealt with directly by the County Council.

There are 144 shops of various kinds within the Urban District in respect of which 294 inspections were made. Assistants are employed in 61 shops and young persons in 8 of this number.

**(2)—Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963.**

The purpose of this Act is to make provision for securing the health, safety and welfare of persons employed to work in office, shop and certain railway premises.

The following is an abstract of information from the Annual Report made to the Minister of Labour in accordance with the provisions of Section 60 of the Act.

CLASS OF WORKPLACE	Total number of registered premises at end of year	No. of persons employed in such premises
Offices: .....	17	46
Retail Shops: .....	31	86
Wholesale shops, warehouses: .....	4	28
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens: .....	8	66
Fuel storage depots: .....	3	6
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	Totals: 63	Males: 105 Females: 127
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Number of general inspections carried out: .....	63
Number of visits of all kinds made: .....	147
Number of contraventions found: .....	150
Number of notices served re: contraventions: .....	35
Number of exemptions granted: .....	Nil
Number of prosecutions: .....	Nil
Number of accidents reported: .....	1

All registered premises have now been dealt with by way of an initial general inspection and are now receiving at least one routine general inspection annually.

**HAIRDRESSING ESTABLISHMENTS**

There are thirteen hairdressing establishments—three for males and ten for females—within the Urban District.

Byelaws as to the cleanliness of hairdressers and barbers made under Section 77 of the Public Health Act, 1961, came into operation on the 1st July, 1967.

Enforcement of the byelaws is resulting in higher standards of cleanliness and the provision of sterilisers for hairdressing equipment in all establishments has now been accomplished.

## FACTORIES AND WORKPLACES

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Act, 1961.

### Part I of the Factories Act, 1961

1.—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of		
		Inspections (3)	Written Notices (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
(i) Factories in which Section 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities .....	2	1	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority .....	27	34	1	Nil
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworker's premises)	8	3	Nil	Nil
TOTAL ...	37	38	1	Nil

2.—Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars (1)	Number of cases in which defects were				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted (6)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred		
			to H.M. Inspec. (4)	by H.M. Inspec. (5)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1) .....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Overcrowding (S.2) .....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Unreasonable temperatures (S.3) .....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) .....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)—					
(a) Insufficient .....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(b) Unsuitable or defective .....	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
(c) Not separate for sexes .....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Other offences against the act (not including offences relating to outwork)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
TOTAL ...	1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil

The provision of sanitary conveniences on sites of building operations in accordance with Section 127 of the Act is an important matter often neglected and demands constant vigilance to avoid insanitary conditions arising.



Outwork is carried on in three premises recorded under Part VIII of the Act.

A number of workplaces coming within the provisions of Section 46 of the Public Health Act, 1936, are regularly inspected.

### **Agriculture (Safety, Health and Welfare Provisions) Act, 1956.**

This Act imposes upon local authorities the duty of ensuring that all agricultural units within its area where workers are employed in agriculture are provided with suitable and sufficient sanitary conveniences which must be properly maintained and kept clean.

There are 30 agricultural units in this Urban District which are generally small in character and on which no exceptional seasonal work takes place. Inspections of these agricultural units have revealed that all have available the water or conservancy type of sanitary convenience at the farmstead sufficient to meet the needs of regular and seasonal workers.

### **RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951**

There are no premises registered or licenced under the above Act within the Urban District.

### **NOISE ABATEMENT ACT, 1960**

The Noise Abatement Act recognised for the first time in history that noise can be a danger to health.

Subject to certain exceptions—noise or vibration which is a nuisance can now be dealt with as a statutory nuisance.

Five noise problems were dealt with during the year.

### **LICENSED PREMISES**

There are 13 public houses within the Urban District.

Systematic inspections are made of the sanitary accommodation at these premises and should the need arise, reports are prepared and submitted to the General Annual Licensing Meeting of the Justices. By this means considerable structural improvements to sanitary accommodation have been effected at several of the licensed premises.

A Hygiene Code of Practice for public houses which, inter alia, directs particular attention to the cleansing and sterilising of glasses, abolition of lead and other unsuitable beer piping and pumps, cleansing of beer piping and pumps, disposal of drippings and overspill beer and the abolition of spittoons has been formulated and addressed to owners and licensees of all public houses and secretaries and stewards of all clubs within the Urban District by whom it has been well received.

The gradual introduction of the pressurised beer pump together with the use of the lined drinking glass will do much to improve the hygiene of beer dispensing.



## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

All food premises and the vehicles of food hawkers and itinerant vendors of ice-cream in the district have been inspected and assessed in comparison with the various provisions of the Model Byelaws for securing the observance of Sanitary and Cleanly Conditions and Practices in connection with the Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food and Sale of Food in the Open Air and The Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960.

Further steady progress was made in implementing the provisions of The Food Hygiene (Markets, Stalls and Delivery Vehicles) Regulations, 1966, which came into operation on the 1st January, 1967.

During the year 219 food hygiene inspections were made and except in twenty-one cases—fourteen in respect of fixed premises and seven in respect of mobile food traders—all contraventions discovered were dealt with verbally on the spot.

The basic aim of food hygiene is to ensure that food reaches the consumer in good condition and free from contamination from pathogenic organisms.

All food premises are inspected at irregular intervals to see—

- (a) that they are suitably equipped;
- (b) that they are properly conducted and that the staff have been instructed in the hygienic handling of food;
- (c) that the food is wholesome and fit for human consumption.

The food hygiene regulations require the food handler to take all such steps as may be reasonably necessary to protect food from risk of contamination and not to place food so as to involve any risk of contamination.

Advice in the form of a handling code for quick-frozen food and ice-cream was distributed to all traders dealing in these commodities during the year.

Education of the food trader and his staff in the observance of the principles and practice of food hygiene is a continuing process which must be sustained.

This task can only be accomplished with the full co-operation of the customer who should realise the importance of shopping and eating where food is dealt with hygienically.

Customers have two big advantages over the inspector. The first is that they are on the spot the entire time the shop is open—the second is that they possess a powerful weapon—the ability to withdraw custom if dissatisfied with the service.

Regular ante-mortem and 100 per cent post-mortem inspection of all animals slaughtered at the one licensed private slaughterhouse within the district was carried out as detailed in the following table.

In accordance with the provisions of Regulation 3A(4) of the Meat Inspection (Amendment) Regulations, 1966, the Council has determined that the days on which, and the hours in those days between which, animals may be slaughtered shall be Monday to Friday (inclusive) from 6-30 a.m. to 4-30 p.m. daily.

A total of 3,855 carcasses and organs of food animals was inspected involving 194 visits to the slaughterhouse and all inspections were carried out in accordance with the provisions of The Meat Inspection Regulations, 1963.

Maximum charges as allowed by these regulations are made by the Council for meat inspection and marking services which during the year produced an income of £163 1s. 0d.

There are no poultry processing premises within the district.

DETAILS	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed .....	453	Nil	Nil	1,692	1,710	Nil
Number inspected .....	453	Nil	Nil	1,692	1,710	Nil
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci:—</i>						
Whole carcasses condemned .....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	1	Nil
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned .....	131	Nil	Nil	357	174	Nil
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerci .....	28.92	Nil	Nil	21.09	10.18	Nil
<i>Tuberculosis only:—</i>						
Whole carcasses condemned .....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned .....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	12	Nil
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis .....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	0.70	Nil
<i>Cysticercosis:—</i>						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned .....	3	Nil	Nil	22	Nil	Nil
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration .....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Generalised and totally condemned .....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil



The following foods were inspected and voluntarily surrendered as unfit for human consumption:—

<i>Description of food</i>	<i>Disease or other cause of Condemnation</i>	<i>Weight condemned</i> <i>tons cwt. qrs. lbs.</i>			
Canned tomato pulp .....	Decomposition	32	12	2	20
Spices (tarragon and cloves) .....	Multifarious contamination			3	26
Silverside beef .....	Decomposition			1	18
Cod fish fillets .....	Decomposition			1	0
Canned boiled ham .....	Decomposition				12
Cheese .....	Decomposition				5
		32	14	1	25

<i>Carcases-Organs or parts condemned</i>	<i>No. condemned</i>	<i>Disease or other cause of condemnation</i>	<i>Weight condemned</i> <i>cwts. qrs. lbs.</i>		
<b>CATTLE EXCLUDING COWS :—</b>					
Head and tongue .....	1	...	Cysticercus bovis ...	1	0
Head less tongue .....	1	...	Cysticercus bovis ...		20
Hearts .....	1 (3)	...	Cysticercus bovis ...		3
Head and tongue .....	1	...	Abscess .....	1	0
Tongues .....	1	...	Septic trauma .....		3
Lungs .....	1	...	Abscess .....		8
Lungs .....	1	...	Hydatidosis .....		8
Hearts .....	2	...	Pericarditis.....		6
Diaphragm or skirt .....	9	...	Abscess .....		27
Livers—whole .....	36	...	Abscess .....	3	1 2
Livers—whole .....	36	...	Distomatosis and Cirrhosis	3	0 24
Livers—whole .....	3	...	Bacterial necrosis ...		1 2
Livers—part .....	52	...	Cirrhosis .....	2	1 9
Kidney with suet .....	1 (131)	...	Abscess .....		6
<b>SHEEP &amp; LAMBS :—</b>					
Hearts .....	22 (22)	...	Cysticercus ovis ...		11
Lungs with heart .....	1	...	Abscess .....		2
Breast .....	2	...	Abscess .....		9
Livers .....	353	...	Parasitic .....	3	0 18
Livers .....	2 (357)	...	Abscess .....		2
<b>PIGS :—</b>					
Heads .....	12 (12)	...	Tuberculosis .....	1	1 0
Whole carcasses and organs	1 (1)	...	Emaciation (Pathological)		20
Heads .....	4	...	Abscess .....	1	20
Heads .....	1	...	Actinomycosis .....		12
Forequarters .....	1	...	Septic fracture .....	1	1
Shoulders .....	1	...	Abscess .....		5
Loins .....	3	...	Abscess .....		20
Belly—part .....	2	...	Abscess .....		5
Legs.....	1	...	Fractured and contused		20
Feet .....	2	...	Fractured and contused		2
Shanks .....	2	...	Abscess .....		6
Lungs .....	1	...	Abscess .....		2
Lungs with hearts .....	16	...	Congestion and Pericarditis	1	20
Plucks .....	8	...	Congestion .....	1	20
Plucks .....	1	...	Septic pericarditis		6
Hearts .....	45	...	Pericarditis.....		22½
Livers .....	80	...	Parasitic .....	2	0 16
Kidneys .....	11 (174)	...	Hydronephrosis ...		5½
				19	2 27

Grand total weight: 33 tons 14 cwt. 0 qrs. 24 lbs.



A perusal of these post-mortem findings would not be complete without it being known that the *Cysticerci* infestations were in all cases confined to one degenerate cyst.

The prevalence of spinal and other abscesses in pigs arising from the habit of tail-biting is something which demands the greatest diligence.

The loss as food of bovine and sheep livers due to Fascioliasis is of considerable economic importance.

The canned tomato pulp is imported by a food canning firm operating in the district and damage during transit or deterioration during storage are the reasons for condemnation.

The containerisation of this commodity in bulk and the impact of the provisions of The Imported Food Regulations, 1968, whereby inspection at the port of entry is deferred to be undertaken by the inland receiving authority, has placed a greater responsibility on the Public Health Department.

All condemned meat and other food is disposed of either to non-edible by-product manufacturers or by burying at the local authority's refuse disposal site under the direction and supervision of the Public Health Inspector. All condemned meat is disposed of in accordance with The Meat (Sterilisation) Regulations, 1969.

The following information is given in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health Circular.

**Number of food premises (by type of business) in district at end of year:—**

Type of Business	No.
General grocers and provision dealers .....	37
Greengrocers and fruiterers (including those selling wet fish/ game/etc.) .....	7
Fishmongers (including those selling poultry/game/etc.).....	Nil
Meat shops (butchers/purveyors of cooked and preserved meat/tripe/etc.) .....	9
Bakers and/or confectioners .....	4
Fried fish shops .....	6
Shops selling mainly sugar confectionery/minerals/ice- cream/etc. ....	4
Licensed premises/clubs/canteens/restaurants/cafes/snack bars and similar catering establishments .....	33
Others .....	6
<b>TOTAL .....</b>	<b>106</b>
<hr/>	
Number of above premises where more than one type of classified business is carried on .....	15
<hr/>	
Actual number of food premises.....	91
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All food premises to which Regulations 16 and 19 apply—concerning the provision of wash-hand basins and sinks—are fully fitted to comply with the legal requirements.

## Number of food premises (by type) registered under the Lancashire County Council (River Board and General Powers) Act, 1938.

Type of Business	No. registered at 31-12-1969	Number of inspections of registered premises during year
(a) Sale of ice-cream .....	37	
(b) Preparation or manufacture of sausages or potted or pressed or pickled or preserved meat .....	6	43

The provisions of Section 14 of the Lancashire County Council (River Board and General Powers) Act, 1951, were not adopted by the Council and registration of premises and persons continues to be effected under Section 115 and 116 of the Act of 1938.

## Food Hawkers registered under the Lancashire County Council (River Board and General Powers) Acts, 1938 and 1968.

About 36 hawkers of meat or meat food products or fish or fruit or vegetables are registered with the Council under the provisions of the above Act.

Regular inspections of the vehicles and food offered or exposed for sale are made and the hawker's attention drawn to any irregularities found.

### Ice-Cream:—

There are no manufacturers of ice-cream within the Urban District. All shop retailers of ice-cream and water-ice are equipped with a modern refrigerator and sell pre-packed products of reputable quality. The only loose ice-cream sold within the area is by itinerant vendors.

## The Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations, 1963.

There are no egg pasteurisation plants in the district.

## FOOD AND DRUGS SAMPLING

The County Council is the Food and Drugs Authority and the County Medical Officer has kindly supplied the following details:—

A total of 33 samples was obtained by the County Sampling Officers in the Urban District made up of 25 samples of milk and 8 samples of other commodities.

Upon examination by the County Analyst all but three of the samples proved to be genuine.



Adverse reports and action taken were, as follows:—

<i>Sample</i>	<i>Result of analysis</i>	<i>Action taken</i>
Pork sausages	Contained extraneous polythene film.	Prosecution followed. Fined £20 Costs £10 10s. 0d.
Black pudding and water in which boiled.	Contained prohibited colouring matter.	Complainant informed and steps taken to locate origin of the outdated food colour.
Cooked part shoulder.	Contained part of a bluebottle.	Complainant informed and packers cautioned.

Two further complaints of swarf in a loaf of bread and mouldy steak and kidney pies were dealt with locally.

## SLAUGHTERHOUSES

Statutory Instruments Nos. 1019 and 1020 made by the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food on the 29th May, 1961, came into operation on the 1st July, 1961, from which date existing slaughterhouses in the district had to comply with hygiene and prevention of cruelty construction regulations.

There is one licensed private slaughterhouse within the Urban District where much of the meat consumed by Standish residents is produced and this has been brought up to the standard required by the regulations. It is pleasing to record that the important work of meat production thereat has operated quite satisfactorily.

## SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1958

### **The Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations, 1958.**

The above Act prohibits the slaughtering and stunning of animals except by licensed slaughtermen and requires all animals to be stunned by a mechanically operated instrument prior to slaughter. The above regulations are designed to secure humane conditions and practices in connection with the slaughter of animals at slaughterhouses and knacker's yards.

A license to slaughter animals is valid for a maximum period of one year and must specify the types of animal permitted to be slaughtered and the type of stunning instrument to be used.

Seven slaughtermen are licensed by the Council to slaughter animals.

## PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

This Act provides for a system of licensing and inspection of pet shops by Local Authorities. The principal purpose is to enforce reasonable treatment and accommodation of pet animals during their sale or keeping for sale.

There are no pet shops within the Urban District.



## ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1963

This Act provides for a system of licensing and inspection by local authorities of any establishment at which a business of providing accommodation for cats or dogs is carried on.

The purpose of the Act is to regulate the keeping of boarding establishments for animals and for purposes connected therewith.

There are no boarding establishments within the Urban District.

### MILK AND DAIRIES ADMINISTRATION

The following statistics give some idea of the milk supply of the district:—

Milk Producers in the district	.....	.....	.....	.....	9
including Producer-Retailers	.....	.....	.....	.....	4
including Producer-Wholesalers	.....	.....	.....	.....	9
Milk Producers outside the district retailing in the district.....					1
All untreated milk is from tuberculin tested stock.					

### The Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959:—

Number of milk distributors registered by the local authority and operating from:—

(a) Dairies in the district	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1
(b) Shops in the district other than dairies.....				.....	.....	29
(c) Premises outside the district	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4

The Urban District is included in Area 8 of the Milk (Special Designations) (Specified Area) (No. 2) Order, 1958, in which the use of special designations in relation to the retail sales of milk for human consumption is made compulsory.

Twenty inspections of milk distributors' premises and vehicles were carried out during the year and time spent on advisory work in connection with clean and safe milk distribution.

### Milk Sampling:—

Since all milk producing herds within the Urban District hold Tuberculin Tested licences and all milk disposed of wholesale is destined for pasteurisation—the sampling of untreated milk is confined to that from herds where the milk is sold by retail distribution.

During the year 32 samples of milk were taken for biological examination. Nine samples submitted to the test for tuberculosis were all negative.

Nine samples of milk were submitted to the Methylene Blue test for cleanliness and—with one exception—all were graded as satisfactory.

**Brucellosis**—Ten out of thirty-two samples of untreated milk from four herds gave a positive reaction when submitted to the milk ring test for brucella infection.

One herd was found to contain infected animals.

With the co-operation of the milk producer through a private veterinary practitioner the infected herd was dealt with by:—

- (a) segregation of infected animals together with the pasteurisation of the milk from such animals;
- (b) removal of the infected animals for fatstock or slaughter;
- (c) sampling of milk until freedom from infection was established;
- (d) the producer was urged to join the Brucellosis (Accredited Herds) Scheme.

## PUBLIC CLEANSING

**Refuse collection and disposal:—**

The Refuse Collection Service provides employment for 15 full-time men—this includes the foreman.

The vehicle establishment consists of two “Dennis” Paxit IIA 16/24 cubic yard capacity compression loaders and one “Dennis” 10 cubic yard sideloader—all powered by diesel engines.

The changing character of refuse—now lighter and bulkier—the impact of the shorter working week and the growth of the district indicate the importance of better payloads and in this respect the merits of the compression loader are self-evident.

Except for the interruptions caused by general holidays a weekly collection of refuse—from the rear of all premises—was maintained throughout the year.

It is gratifying to record that the refuse collection service operates generally without complaint—a service which intimately touches every ratepayer—and by the standard of this service the efficiency or otherwise of a local authority may sometimes be judged.

Considerable importance is attached to adequate and regular vehicle maintenance and the working of overtime is discouraged.

The Council has formally resolved not to undertake the removal of trade refuse—since with few exceptions—no charges are made for this service. Much of the trade refuse removed is salvaged and sold and the revenue so produced is greater than that which would accrue from trade refuse charges.



The sand pits at Langtree Hall Farm used for the purpose of refuse disposal have proved very satisfactory and no complaints have been received. It is anticipated that this site will provide disposal capacity for several years.

The four-wheel drive Michigan 35A tractor shovel acquired in 1965 has proved itself indispensable in achieving and maintaining adequate and regular control of the refuse disposal sites.

The refuse tips are regularly treated with bait and insecticide as a precaution against rodent and insect infestation.

The emptying of the few remaining pail closets was carried out weekly.

**Dustbin provision scheme:—**

The dustbin provision and ownership scheme has been in existence since 1951 and is operating satisfactorily. During the year 201 dustbins were provided out of the General Rate Fund.

In consequence of the consideration given to the Report of the Working Party on Refuse Storage and Collection, the Council decided that the “Dennis” 3¼ cubic feet polypropylene injection moulded dustbin with hinged lid, which, by way of a pilot scheme had been proved entirely satisfactory in use, henceforth be used in the operation of the Dustbin Provision Scheme instead of the mild steel galvanised dustbin.

**Salvage recovery:—**

Salvage was collected at the same time as the refuse and kept separately for baling and subsequent despatch to Thames Board Mills Limited at Warrington under contract arrangements.

The salvage of waste paper has come to be regarded as a permanent and important part of the Public Cleansing Service.

The workmen are rewarded 25 per cent of all income from the sale of salvaged materials as an incentive to increase collection.

The income from the sale of salvaged materials during the calendar year was:—

Grade	Tons	Cwts.	Qrs.	£	s.	d.
Mixed papers.....	111	1	0	1,023	0	6
Fibreboard containers .....	112	12	0	1,283	2	6
White newspapers .....	63	10	0	688	0	0
<hr/>						
Total weight .....	287	3	0	2,994	3	0
Rags and scrap .....	18	19	1	137	14	6
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Grand total weight .....	306	2	1	3,131	17	6
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### **Report of the Working Party on Refuse Collection:—**

In accordance with Circular 34/67 from the Ministry of Housing and Local Government, a comprehensive account of the fourteen main points of the above report was prepared, relating comments thereon to the refuse collection service applicable to this urban district.

The report was very carefully considered by the Public Health Committee, whereupon it was noted that the arrangements for the storage and collection of refuse provided by this authority bear very favourable comparison with the recommendations of the report of the Working Party.

Nevertheless, future improvements in the service will be made in the light of these recommendations and the warning given of the need to plan well ahead in refuse storage and collection methods has not gone unheeded.

### **Civic Amenties Act, 1967:—**

The statutory obligations placed upon the Council by the provisions of Part III of the above Act have been met in the following manner:—

- (a) by the specific provision of a refuse dump at Seven Stars Sandpits where Standish residents may take and dispose of unwanted vehicles, bulky household refuse and other rubbish, other than business refuse, free of charge at all reasonable times (Section 18).

In the case of residents, who, for one reason or another, are unable to avail themselves of this facility, upon request, the removal of bulky household refuse is undertaken by the local authority free of charge.

This new service was publicised by the distribution of a circular letter to every household and business premises within the district, and, as a result, it can be said that the enormous amount of bulky refuse disposed of since August, 1968, which has to be seen to be believed, amply demonstrates that the service is known and appreciated.

Under such circumstances of indiscriminate dumping, adequate tip control presents a problem, and this task is made all the more difficult by trespassers who resort to the tip to sort over the discards of the throwaway society.

In spite of the provision of and publicity given to these facilities, it was found necessary to have to deal with the removal of 11 derelict cars and 10 cases of unlawful dumping of rubbish.

It can however be truly said that the district is generally cleaner because of these efforts.

- (b) by entering into a formal arrangement with a local garage proprietor for the removal, storage and disposal of abandoned vehicles in accordance with the statutory charges laid down in The Removal and Disposal of Vehicles Regulations, 1968 (Sections 20 to 22).

#### **Anti-litter Campaign:—**

The Council has provided a number of litter bins which have been fixed at suitable points in the district. These are emptied at weekly intervals by the Public Cleansing Department.

#### **Street Cleansing:—**

The cleansing of non-County roads is carried out under the direction and supervision of the Engineer and Surveyor.





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**James Starr and Sons Limited,  
Dawber Street Works,  
Wigan.**

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